

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Craig M. Lundell on March 10, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims:

On lines 1-2 of step (b) of claim 1, *substituted* “a catalytic hydroisomerization and catalytic dewaxing process” *with* --a first catalytic hydroisomerization and catalytic dewaxing process--.

On lines 1-2 of step (d) of claim 1, *substituted* “a catalytic hydroisomerization and catalytic dewaxing process” *with* --the first catalytic hydroisomerization and catalytic dewaxing process or a second catalytic hydroisomerization and catalytic dewaxing process --.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art or record does not disclose or suggest a process for prepare base oils from a Fischer-Tropsch synthesis product by subjecting the base oil precursor fraction to a catalytic hydroisomerization/dewaxing process and subjecting a heavy ends fraction (iii) to a thermal

cracking process and subjecting a high boiling fraction (v) of fraction (iv) to a catalytic hydroisomerization/dewaxing process.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAM M. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-1452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Calderola can be reached on (571) 272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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